

Gauss Symposium

International Conference on Mathematics and Theoretical Physics

Guarujá, Brazil, July 24–27, 1989

The Carl Friedrich Gauss Institute, also known as Institutum Gaussianum, P.O. Box 40, McMaster University Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8S 4L7, organized its second symposium in Guarujá, Brazil. The symposium was promoted by the Institute and by the Universidade Católica de Santos, Brazil. The local organizer was R. G. Lintz, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil.

Four contributions were dedicated to the history of mathematics:

Ivo Schneider (Munich, FRG): Gauss's Contribution to the Development of Probability Theory

Eberhard Knobloch (Berlin (West), FRG): Gauss and the Development of Error Theory: On the Hypothetical Nature of Mathematical Proofs

Rudolf Fritsch (Munich, FRG): The Enterprise Tropicke, History of Elementary Mathematics

Michael Toepell (Munich, FRG): The Lost Centre of a Circle (read by R. Fritsch).

The proceedings will be published by R. G. Lintz, R. Fritsch, and C. A. de Moura.

Colloque: Ratio—La théorie des proportions de l'Antiquité au XIX^{ème} siècle

Centro Internazionale per la Ricerca Matematica, Trento, 9–13 janvier 1989

By Jean Dhombres and Enrico Giusti

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Née dans l'antiquité classique, probablement comme réponse au scandale de l'incommensurabilité, et transmise au livre V des *Eléments* d'Euclide, la théorie des proportions est restée longtemps un des points les plus difficiles, sinon les plus controversés, de la géométrie: elle se donne comme *mathesis universalis*, langage universel de la mathématique et fondement de ses applications à la science de la nature.

Lo scopo del colloquio, che facendo seguito a quello di Luminy sull'Arte Analitica (settembre 1987), fu di discutere i diversi aspetti della teoria proporzioni,